

**Muhlenberg College/Morning Call**

**Pennsylvania Health Care Poll**

**Frequency Report**

Number of Interviews: 402

Margin of Error: +/- 5% at a 95% level of confidence.

Fielding Dates – October 27 – November 10, 2009

**Q3: Over the last six months there has been a large amount of debate in Washington D.C. about the issue of health care in the United States. Would you say you have been following the health care debate in Washington D.C. very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely or not at all?**

Very Closely	24%
Somewhat Closely	44%
Not Too Closely	23%
Not At All	8%
Not Sure	>1%

**Q4: Do you think you understand the health care reforms under consideration in Congress, or are they confusing to you?**

Understand	30%
Confusing	62%
Not Sure	8%

**Q5: How important is the issue of health care to you personally? Not At All Important, Slightly Important, Moderately Important, Very Important, Extremely Important.**

Not At All Important	2%
Slightly Important	5%
Moderately Important	15%
Very Important	44%
Extremely Important	34%
Not Sure	>1%

**Q6: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling health care?**

Approve	36%
Disapprove	38%
Not Sure	26%

**Q7: Which of the following three statements comes closest to expressing your overall view of the health care system in the United States? 1) On the whole, the health care system works pretty well and only minor changes are necessary to make it work better. OR, (2) There are some good things in our health care system, but fundamental changes are needed. OR, (3) Our health care system has so much wrong with it that we need to completely rebuild it.**

Minor Changes	14%
Fundamental Changes	56%
Completely Rebuild	28%
Not Sure	2%

**Q8: Are you generally satisfied or dissatisfied with the quality of health care you receive? Would you say you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the health care you receive?**

Very Satisfied	49%
Somewhat Satisfied	35%
Somewhat Dissatisfied	8%
Very Dissatisfied	7%
Not Sure	>1%

**Q9: Regardless of how you usually vote, who do you think has better ideas about reforming the health care system: Barack Obama or the Republicans in Congress?**

Barack Obama	47%
Republicans	21%
Equally Good	2%
Neither	13%
Not Sure	18%

**Q10: Do you mostly support or mostly oppose the changes to the health care system proposed by Barack Obama, or don't you know enough about them yet to say?**

Mostly Support	30%
Mostly Oppose	26%
Don't Know About Them Enough	44%

**Q11: And from what you have heard about Barack Obama's health care plan, do you believe it will result in the quality of your health care getting better, worse, or staying about the same as now? If you do not have an opinion please just say so.**

Getting Better	19%
Getting Worse	33%
Staying About the Same	27%
Not Sure	22%

**Q12: Do you generally approve or disapprove of the way the Republicans in Congress are handling the issue of health care reform?**

Generally Approve	17%
Generally Disapprove	58%
Not Sure	25%

**Q13: Would you favor or oppose the government offering everyone a government administered health insurance plan – something like the Medicare coverage that people 65 and older get -- that would compete with private health insurance plans?**

Favor	51%
Oppose	36%
Not Sure	13%

**Q14: What if changes to the health care system do not include the option of a government-administered health insurance plan? In that case, would you favor or oppose the changes under consideration?**

Favor	35%
Oppose	32%
Not Sure	33%

**Q15: Congress is considering many different items as part of health care reform legislation. I am going to read you some of the items they are considering that may or may not end up in the final legislation. For each one, please tell me whether you feel this absolutely must be included as part of health care legislation, you would prefer it be included, you would prefer it NOT be included, or you feel it absolutely must NOT be included: First, requiring that health insurance companies cover people with pre-existing medical conditions**

Must Be Included	69%
Prefer It Be Included	26%

Prefer It Not Be Included	1%
Must Not Be Included	3%
Not Sure	2%

**Q16: Creating a law that limits the amount of money someone can collect if they win a lawsuit after being injured by bad medical care**

Must Be Included	38%
Prefer It Be Included	32%
Prefer It Not Be Included	12%
Must Not Be Included	9%
Not Sure	9%

**Q17: Requiring that all but the smallest employers provide health coverage for their employees, or pay a percentage of their payroll to help fund coverage for the uninsured**

Must Be Included	34%
Prefer It Be Included	35%
Prefer It Not Be Included	13%
Must Not Be Included	11%
Not Sure	7%

**Q18: Creating a public health care plan administered by the federal government that would compete directly with private health insurance companies**

Must Be Included	24%
Prefer It Be Included	24%
Prefer It Not Be Included	11%
Must Not Be Included	26%
Not Sure	14%

**Q19: Creating a law that requires everyone to have health insurance coverage. Those people with low and moderate incomes would receive government assistance. Those people who can afford it would have to buy their own health insurance or pay a penalty or fine if they do not.**

Must Be Included	19%
Prefer It Be Included	23%
Prefer It Not Be Included	21%
Must Not Be Included	29%
Not Sure	9%

**Q20: In 2010 there will be elections for members of both the House of Representatives and United States Senate. Which of the following best describes the effect of a candidate's positions on health care reform in terms of your vote in next year's election?**

I will only for candidates that share my views on healthcare	26%
I prefer candidates that share my views on healthcare but might vote for one that differs with me on the issue	50%
A candidate's position will not have a big impact on my vote	13%
Not Planning to Vote	4%
Not Sure	7%

**Q21: Now I would like to ask you a few questions about the swine flu and standard seasonal flu. First would you estimate that you are highly unlikely, somewhat unlikely somewhat likely, or highly likely to get the SWINE FLU this year?**

Highly Unlikely	31%
Somewhat Unlikely	29%
Somewhat Likely	21%
Highly Likely	13%
Not Sure	6%

**Q22: Next would you estimate that you are highly unlikely, somewhat unlikely, somewhat likely, or highly likely to get the STANDARD SEASONAL FLU this year?**

Highly Unlikely	33%
Somewhat Unlikely	22%
Somewhat Likely	22%
Highly Likely	21%
Not Sure	2%

**Q23: How concerned are you about you or a member of your family contracting the Swine Flu this year? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not concerned at all about contracting the swine flu this year?**

Very Concerned	27%
Somewhat Concerned	40%
Not Too Concerned	22%
Not Concerned At All	11%
Not Sure	>1%

**Q24: Do you plan to be vaccinated against the regular flu this year, which does not include the swine flu?**

Get Vaccinated	58%
No Vaccination	40%
Not Sure	3%

**Q25: As you may know the government may make an additional flu vaccine available this fall that would protect against the swine flu. It would be available as a separate shot and would not be included in the regular flu vaccine this year. You would have to make a separate trip to the doctor or clinic to get this shot as it won't be available when the regular flu shot is administered. How likely would you be to get this separate shot for yourself, if it is available? Very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not likely at all?**

Very Likely	28%
Somewhat Likely	18%
Not Too Likely	15%
Not Likely At All	37%
Not Sure	3%

**Q26: Do you have children that are 18 years or younger?**

Yes	29%
No	71%

**Q27: Do you plan to have your children vaccinated against the regular flu this year, which does not include the swine flu?**

Have Them Vaccinated	54%
No Vaccination	38%
Not Sure	8%

**Q28: Do you plan to give permission to have the additional swine flu shot administered to your children at school, on a separate date from the regular flu vaccine, if it is available?**

Permit	45%
Not Permit	46%
Not Sure	9%

**Q29: Without knowing anything else about the swine flu vaccine being developed, how confident would you be that this vaccine would protect you and your family from the swine flu? Are you very confident, somewhat confident, or not confident at all that the swine flu vaccine will protect you and your family from the swine flu?**

Very Confident	18%
Somewhat Confident	55%
Not Confident At All	22%
Not Sure	5%

**Q30: How concerned are you that there would be side effects from this new flu vaccine for the swine flu? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not concerned at all about side effects from the new swine flu vaccine?**

Very Concerned	26%
Somewhat Concerned	36%
Not Too Concerned	21%
Not Concerned At All	11%
Not Sure	6%

**Q31: Next, I'm going to read you a list of precautionary measures that you make take to avoid contracting the swine flu. For each measure I mention please indicate if you will or will not take that precautionary measure to avoid contracting the swine flu, first wash hands more often**

Will	97%
Will Not	3%
Not Sure	>1%

**Q32: Avoid Public Transportation**

Will	45%
Will Not	48%
Not Sure	7%

**Q33: Use Hand Disinfectants**

Will	84%
Will Not	15%
Not Sure	1%

**Q34: Avoid Large Gatherings of People**

Will	35%
Will Not	61%
Not Sure	4%

**Q35: Wear a Mask**

Will	14%
Will Not	83%
Not Sure	3%

**Q36: Which of these best describe your status in regard to health care?**

Provided From Employer	47%
Medicare	20%
Medicaid	4%
Pay For Your Own	18%
Without Health Insurance	6%
Other	5%
Not Sure	2%